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NIC #02806-85
31 May 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM: John J. Bird
National Intelligence Officer for Warning

SUBJECT: Invitation by XVIII Airborne Corps

1. In following up the invitation by the XVIII Airborne Corps to visit Ft. Bragg on 17-18 June 1985, it was discovered that General Lindsay, the Commander, has suddenly been called by the Department of the Army to be elsewhere at that time. Because the General expressed a specific interest in talking to me himself, it was suggested that the visit be postponed and a number of dates were discussed. Right now it looks like the first mutually acceptable date is likely to be in September.

2. Yesterday I was contacted by representatives of General Lindsay's Marine Corps counterpart command of Fleet Marine Forces Europe (FMFEUR), Fleet Marine Forces Atlantic (FMFLANT) and by representatives of the Commander Second Fleet (Adm. Metcalf's replacement) to be a principle participant in a seminar discussion in June on the application of their forces in Europe and the warning implications pertaining thereto. A more formal invitation is likely to come through the mail soon. I believe we should accept the invitation.

3. There are three major groupings of discretionary land forces in the US--the two above, the XVIII Airborne Corps and the FMFLANT/EUR forces, and the U.S. Army's Third Corps based at Ft. Hood, Texas. Perhaps as much as apprising the Commander's in Chief of the unified commands of strategic warning, its problems and its solutions, we owe these three land force commands good service. They are the forces that react to the Greneda's/Nicaragua's/Honduras' and Costa Rica's of the world as well as the Southwest Asian and World War III problems. It is their plans and preparations based on what they view as the time

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available--provided by warning--as well as the politically usable and active reserve forces. The importance of warning for both the time available for military preparations and for the timely education of the public, including Congress, seems obvious and a discussion of it with these commands should have a payoff.

5. With your approval, I will pursue the XVIII Airborne Corps invitation, of which you are already aware, sometime in September, the FMFLANT/EUR for June and a meeting with the Commander of the Third Corps in August or October.

John J. Bird

APPROVED:

RS

Chairman, National Intelligence Council

3 JUN 1985

Date

All portions of this memorandum
are classified SECRET



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DDI- 02427-85

| ROUTING: | DATE: |
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| DDI | 5/13 |
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Mr. John Bird, National
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Sincerely,

Bernard Loeffke
Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Chief of Staff

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS XVIII AIRBORNE CORPS AND FORT BRAGG
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA 28307-5000

May 3, 1985

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFZA-DPT-P

DDI- 02427-85

Mr. Robert Gates
Chairman, National Intelligence Council
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Gates:

We at XVIII Airborne Corps wish to invite Mr. John Bird, National Intelligence Officer for Warning, to visit Fort Bragg 17-18 June 1985 for briefings and an exchange of views on strategic warning.

As you know, XVIII Airborne Corps is frequently involved in translating national strategy into military plans and in reacting to strategic warnings. We are most anxious to hear Mr. Bird's views concerning warning indicators in several theaters that concern us. We are arranging a small gathering of our senior commanders for the discussion.

In turn, we will brief Mr. Bird on our operational collection capabilities and, in a more general sense, on the Corps' capability to react quickly to national-level missions.

If this invitation is favorably considered, we request that your agency forward Mr. Bird's security clearance through appropriate channels to our Special Security Office (SSO) at Fort Bragg. The action officer coordinating this visit is Captain Gil Perez. He can be reached at Area Code 919 396-4806.

Thank you for your assistance. We look forward to seeing Mr. Bird down here in June.

Sincerely,

Bernard Loeffke
Brigadier General, U. S. Army
Chief of Staff

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